MARVEL

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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

LAST REMAINS

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Thanks to the mysterious villain Kindred, Sin-Eater rose from the dead more dangerous than ever. He's "cleansing" criminals of their sins AND their powers, leaving them reformed, but Spider-Man doesn't trust the cop killer. So when Sin-Eater set his sights on Norman Osborn, current director of Ravencroft Institute for the Criminally Insane, Spider-Man swung to the rescue of his archnemesis. Norman donned the Green Goblin suit once again, and he and Spidey teamed up against the souped-up Sin-Eater.

But once Sin-Eater had been stalled, Norman showed his true colors by trying to kill Spider-Man! Fortunately, Peter's Spider-Friends, calling themselves "the Order of the Web," showed up in time to rescue him. In a fit of rage, Spider-Man left Norman behind in the ruins of Ravencroft Institute while he and the Order escaped!

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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

LAST REMAINS

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FINALLY.

I KNOW THIS HAS BEEN... *FRUSTRATING*, PETE.

ALL THE WONDERING AND THE WAITING.

ALL THE NIGHTMARES.

AND I'M SURE YOU'RE TIRED OF THE GAMES. *ANYONE* WOULD BE.

BUT I PROMISE YOU, THERE WAS A METHOD TO THIS *PARTICULAR* MADNESS.

YOU SEE, I NEEDED TO SHOW YOU SOMETHING FIRST.

KRAKOOM

TO HELP YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT'S TO COME.

BUT NOW YOU'RE SO CLOSE I CAN FEEL IT IN MY BONES.

AND I'M NOT GONNA LIE, PETE. I'M *EXCITED.*

SOON, WE'LL BE FACE-TO-FACE.

NOT JUST IN DREAMS. NOT JUST BY PROXY.

SOON, WE MEET--

--IN THE FLESH.

GEORGE STACY

R.I.P.

OKAY--

--ROUGH START, I KNOW.

CLEARLY, I AM OFF MY GAME.

SO WHAT HAPPENED TO MAKE YOUR *FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN* SUCH A *DISCOMBOBULATED MESS?*

FRANKLY, I'M NOT EVEN SURE I *KNOW* FOR THE MOST PART. BUT I DO KNOW--

--IT'S ALL MY FAULT.

HNN-- PARKER--PICKED THE WORST POSSIBLE TIME TO GROW SOME BACKBONE--

YOU SHOULD BE *PROUD* OF HOW YOU *FOUGHT.*

LESS PROUD OF HOW YOU *RUN* NOW.

BUT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE TO ME...

IT DOESN'T *MATTER.*

OUR SINS ALWAYS CATCH UP TO US IN THE END.

AND YOUR SINS ARE *SO MANY*, NORMAN OSBORN.

CARTER.

YOU IDIOT. YOU POOR, DELUDED ZEALOT.

YOU REALLY THINK THIS IS SOME *DIVINE CALLING*, DON'T YOU?

HH. THE BOY HAS REALLY DONE A NUMBER ON *YOU*, HASN'T HE?

OH, THAT'S RIGHT--I KNOW ALL ABOUT HIM. THE ONE YOU SERVE--

KINDRED.

HE'S NOT WHO YOU *THINK* HE IS.

HE'S NOT THAT ALL-POWERFUL *HELL SPAWN* HE PLAYACTS.

HE'S JUST A SIMPERING LITTLE *WEAKLING,* LIKE ALWAYS.

HE DOESN'T EVEN HAVE THE GUTS TO DO THIS HIMSELF!!!

BUT LISTEN TO ME, STAN-- IT'S NOT TOO LATE FOR YOU. I CAN HELP YOU. TOGETHER WE COULD *DESTROY* HIM!

YOU WANT TO CLEANSE THIS WORLD OF SIN? *SO DO I!* I'VE DEDICATED MY LIFE TO IT!

IMAGINE WHAT WE COULD DO AS *PARTNERS.*

YOU--YOU FOOL! WHAT IS *WRONG* WITH YOU?!

DON'T YOU KNOW WHO I AM?! I'M *NORMAN OSBORN!* I RAN THIS ENTIRE *COUNTRY! I SAVED THE WORLD!*

WHO THE HELL ARE *YOU* TO DEFY *ME?!*

ANSWER ME, DAMN YOU!!!

...

I--I'M SORRY, STAN. SOMETIMES, I...STRUGGLE. THESE VOICES IN MY HEAD, THEY GET SO ***ANGRY*** SOMETIMES. AND I--

WELL, I'M SURE ***YOU*** OF ALL PEOPLE CAN UNDERSTAND THAT.

YOU SEE, STAN, I'M ***SICK.*** I--I'VE BEEN SICK FOR SO LONG... I NEED HELP.

YOU-- YOU COULD ***HELP*** ME...

YOU SEE, I DON'T NEED PUNISHMENT. I NEED ***MERCY.***

AND I--I KNOW YOU DON'T THINK WHAT YOU DO IS ***PUNISHMENT,*** BUT-- I DON'T WANT MY DEMONS ***EXORCISED***-- I WANT TO ***BEAT*** THEM. ***OVERCOME*** THEM.

WILL YOU ***HELP*** ME, STAN?

PLEASE?

PLEASE!!!

HELP ME!!!

HELP-- HELP--

--HH.

HH. HH. HHHHH...

HA HA HA HA HA

HEH.

WHAT CAN I SAY? YOU'VE GOT ME. WHEN YOU'RE RIGHT, YOU'RE *RIGHT*, "SIN-EATER."

GO AHEAD AND KILL HIM--

--HE'S OF NO USE TO ME ANYMORE.

THE WORK IS DONE.

I HAD TO FIX THIS. SOMEHOW.

TROUBLE WAS, I HAD NO IDEA *HOW.*

ALL I HAD WAS A NIGHTMARE WITH A NAME--

KINDRED.

SO I ENDED UP HERE, AT THE PLACE YOU COME WHEN THE UNEXPLAINABLE NEEDS EXPLAINING.

I'M SURE HE'LL BE THRILLED TO SEE ME.

KNOCK KNOCK

HEY, DOC, HOW'S IT--

--GOOOOIIINNN--

DID YOU HEAR ME? I SAID IT'S *FINISHED.*

I DID EVERYTHING YOU ASKED OF ME. EVERYTHING I WAS CALLED TO DO.

WILL YOU FINALLY *ANSWER* ME NOW?

PLEASE--

--ANSWER ME.

AWW...

POOR LITTLE STANLEY-- ALL ALONE, WITH NO IDEA WHAT TO DO WITH HIMSELF. ABANDONED YET AGAIN.

YOU-- YOU'RE *HERE.* WHERE--

IT'S NOT THAT I'M *UNSYMPATHETIC,* YOU KNOW. I HAD MY OWN FAMILIAL ISSUES. IT'S JUST--

I SAVED HIM...

--THINGS COULD BE SO MUCH *WORSE,* COULDN'T THEY?

LOOK AT POOR NORMAN HERE, FOR INSTANCE. LOOK WHAT YOU DID TO HIM.

I CLEANSED HIM.

YOU SURE DID.

HIS SINS ARE *YOUR* SINS NOW. CAN YOU FEEL THEM? COURSING THROUGH YOUR VEINS? SCRATCHING AT YOU-- TRYING TO GET FREE.

YES... YOU CAN ALMOST HEAR THEM, CAN'T YOU?

NO...WHAT'S HAPPENING?

WHAT DID YOU *THINK* WOULD HAPPEN?

WAIT--

THAT YOU WOULD BE *REWARDED?* FLOAT UP TO PARADISE ON A LITTLE CLOUD...?

OR MAYBE I'D JUST GIVE YOU THE HUG YOU NEVER GOT?

N-N-NO--

SORRY, STAN. TRUTH IS--

--I CAN BARELY STAND TO *LOOK* AT YOU.

W-WHY? WHY ARE YOU *DOING* THIS?

BECAUSE I JUST CAN'T STAND *HYPOCRITES.* YOU, SO GUILTY OF SIN, TRYING TO STAND IN JUDGMENT OF SO MANY OTHERS. WHO GAVE YOU THE RIGHT?

OH, WAIT. *I* DID. EVEN STILL, POINT STANDS.

NO-- MY SINS WERE BURNED IN *CLEANSING FIRE...* I SUFFERED IN *HELL* FOR THEM...

NOT *ALL* OF THEM. EVEN AFTER ALL THESE YEARS--YEARS THAT FEEL LIKE CENTURIES-- I CAN SAY FROM EXPERIENCE...

...THERE WAS ONE YOU HELD ON TO SO TIGHTLY, REFUSING TO REPENT, NO MATTER HOW MUCH I PUNISHED YOU--

YOU SEE, YOU WERE RIGHT.

THEY DO ALWAYS CATCH UP WITH US.

THEY *DESERVED* TO DIE. THEY KILLED MY PARTNER...

HN. NOT EVEN CLOSE. THEY WERE *DRUG PUSHERS*, STAN. NOT EVEN VERY GOOD AT IT, THEIR OWN BEST CUSTOMERS.

YOUR PARTNER, HE DID A LITTLE BUSINESS WITH THEM. MADE SOME EXTRA CASH LOOKING THE OTHER WAY.

NO... HE WAS A *GOOD MAN--* HE WAS MY *FRIEND--*

YEAH. YOU DIDN'T TAKE IT VERY WELL AT THE TIME, EITHER.

YOU SEE, THEY DIDN'T KILL YOUR PARTNER, STAN--

--YOU DID.

NOW IT'S TIME TO FACE WHAT YOU'VE DONE.

AGGHHH!

HELP-- H-HELP ME, P-PLEASE--

I REALLY WISH I COULD, STAN. BUT THIS IS THE PRICE WE ALL PAY IN THE END.

BUT I--*GNFF*-- I D-D-DID WHAT YOU SAID...

YES. YOU TOOK THOSE SINS AS YOUR OWN. THESE MURDERERS AND MONSTERS--

YOU REMEMBER WHAT THE WAGES OF SIN ARE, DON'T YOU?

BUT YOU CAN AT LEAST TAKE SOLACE IN THIS, STAN--YOU'RE FINALLY FREE.

REST NOW, MY GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT.

THOSE SINS--

"THEY'RE SOMEONE ELSE'S TO CARRY NOW."

OKAY, REALLY THOUGH-- WHAT JUST *HAPPENED?*

I WAS JUST ABOUT TO ASK THE SAME THING.

I THINK I CAN HELP--

--WE JUST GOT RESCUED.

I MEAN, NONE OF US ***NEEDED*** IT, OR ***ASKED*** FOR IT--AND IT ***UNDOUBTEDLY*** WILL COME BACK TO BITE US, BUT--

YEAH. I KNOW I FEEL MUCH SAFER.

UH, GUYS? SORRY TO INTERRUPT, BUT--

--THERE'S SOMETHING OUT THERE.

HE'S RIGHT. BRACE, PEOPLE-- SOMETHING'S INCOMI--

SHE-HULK

AHHH!! DAMN IT--

WHATEVER IT IS, IT'S IN THE SHIP--

IT'S EVERYWHERE...

STAY CLOSE.

IT WON'T MATTER.

I'M SORRY, PETER. I TRIED.

BUT NOTHING CAN STOP THIS.

NOT EVEN YOU.

STOP WHAT? I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT IT--

OH GOD--

AHHHHH!

RELAX--

--MY POTIONS CAN DO WONDERS FOR YOUR WOUNDS, BUT THEY NEED TIME TO ACT.

A-APPRECIATE IT, DOC--

--BUT TIME'S EXACTLY WHAT I *DON'T* HAVE.

REALLY? YOU, RUNNING LATE?

I SHOULD GET UP--

AND I SHOULD BE PREPPING YOU FOR *SURGERY* RIGHT NOW. PETER--

--WHAT *HAPPENED* TO YOU?

I...I *SCREWED UP*, OKAY?

I *REALLY* SCREWED UP. AND I NEED YOUR HELP.

AND SO I TELL HIM EVERYTHING.

OKAY, ***ALMOST*** EVERYTHING.

THAT WAS BAD ***ENOUGH.***

YOU DID ***WHAT?!***

I ***HAD*** TO, OKAY? OR AT LEAST--I ***THOUGHT*** I HAD TO. HE WAS GONNA ***KILL*** AGAIN. WE ALL KNEW IT. WHAT--WHAT KIND OF ***CHOICE*** DID I HAVE?

WHETHER IT WAS TO SAVE LIVES OR NOT, YOU MADE A DEAL WITH A DEMONIC ENTITY--

--DID YOU REALLY THINK THAT WOULDN'T COME BACK TO ***HAUNT*** YOU?

THESE FRIENDS OF YOURS-- WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

YEAH, YOU'RE NOT GONNA LIKE ***THAT*** PART EITHER.

CRASH!

HNNN...

MILES?

GWEN? ANYA?

WHERE IS EVERY--

UH-OH.

HEY, PETE.

LONG TIME, NO SEE.

THAT VOICE-- THAT'S NOT--

AND THAT PRETTY MUCH GETS YOU TO WHERE WE STARTED.

THAT'S RIGHT PETE.

IT'S ME.

AND I ASSURE YOU, THIS IS JUST THE WARM UP.

AFTER ALL THE WAIT HASN'T BEEN EASY FOR ME EITHER.

SO MUCH *ANTICIPATION!*

I WANT EVERYTHING TO BE *PERFECT* IN ITS RIGHT PLACE.

TO BE HONEST, I'M WORRIED I WENT A LITTLE *OVERBOARD.*

BUT HEY, WHO DOESN'T LOVE TO PLAN A GOOD PARTY?

THEN AGAIN, THIS STUFF-- THE ATMOSPHERE, THE TABLE SETTING-- IT'S NOT WHAT *MATTERS*, IS IT?

NO, WHAT MATTERS IS WHO'S GOING TO BE THERE.

AND BOY, DO I HAVE A SURPRISE FOR YOU THERE.

YOU'RE GOING TO LOVE IT, PETE.

THERE'S NO BETTER FEELING IN THIS LIFE--

--THAN BEING SURROUNDED BY THOSE YOU LOVE.

AHHHHHH!

OVER THERE! HE'S OVER THERE!

DIRECTOR OSBORN!

JUST HOLD TIGHT, SIR-- WE'RE ALMOST THERE--

W-W-WHAT'S HAPPENING?

WE HAVE TO GET YOU OUT OF HERE, SIR. THIS WHOLE PLACE IS STRUCTURALLY COMPROMISED.

"IT COULD COME DOWN ON US *ANY SECOND* NOW."

RAVEN CROFT

OH GOD, WHAT HAVE I DONE?

AND YOU'RE HERE WITH--N-NO... NO--DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME ON ME. *S-SAVE YOUR-SELVES!*

I DON'T D-DESERVE YOUR HELP--

ON THAT POINT, CAN'T SAY I *DISAGREE*--

--GIVEN EVERYTHING YOU'VE BEEN *HIDING* DOWN HERE, NORMAN.

D-DOCTOR KAFKA!

YOU'RE RIGHT.

OH GOD... WHAT HAVE I DONE?

LISTEN TO ME, DOCTOR-- I KNOW YOU HAVE NO REASON TO BELIEVE ME OR TO TRUST ME, BUT--

--SOMETHING HAS *CHANGED* INSIDE ME. THE SIN-EATER, HE TURNED HIS *WEAPON* ON ME AND--

WAIT--

W-WHERE IS THE SIN-EATER?

I WAS HOPING *YOU* COULD TELL *ME*. HE SEEMS TO HAVE *DISAPPEARED*--

"--LEAVING HIS FOLLOWERS BEHIND."

OH NO-- WE HAVE TO *FIND* HIM.

FIND WHO?

THE SIN-EATER IS JUST THE BEGINNING--THE ONE BEHIND HIM IS EVEN *WORSE*. HE WON'T STOP UNTIL EVERYTHING IS BURNED TO THE GROUND.

AND IT'S *ALL MY FAULT.*

"HIS NAME IS *KINDRED--*"

--YOU HAVE TO HELP ME FIND HIM.

THAT SOUNDS LIKE A JOB FOR THE *AUTHORITIES* I'LL BE TURNING YOU OVER TO--

NO, THERE'S *NO TIME*-- THEY'D NEVER LISTEN TO ME. AND EVEN IF THEY DID...THEY'D *HURT* HIM. WHEN WHAT HE NEEDS--

"--IS *HELP.*"

HELP? WHY ARE YOU SO CONCERNED ABOUT HELPING THIS MAN YOU CLAIM IS SUCH A *DANGER* TO US ALL?

BECAUSE, DOCTOR--

"--HE'S MY SON."

#50 VARIANT BY ARTHUR ADAMS & MORRY HOLLOWELL

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THIS JUST KEEPS GETTING *WORSE.*

I CAME HERE LOOKING FOR HELP FROM DOCTOR STRANGE--

--BUT IT LOOKS LIKE I BROUGHT MY DEMONS *WITH* ME.

WILL SOMEONE PLEASE TELL ME WHAT THE *HELL IS GOING ON HERE?!*

INTERESTING CHOICE OF WORDS, DOC--

--SINCE HELL'S GOT PLENTY TO DO WITH THIS.

FWAK

ISN'T THAT RIGHT, PETE?

OKAY, THAT HURT.

ON A NORMAL DAY, SILK CAN GO TOE-TO-TOE WITH ME. BUT UNDER THIS... POSSESSION--

THRUD

--SHE'S PACKING TWICE THE PUNCH.

KRAK

ONLY A MATTER OF TIME--

THWAK

--'TIL SHE GETS THE UPPER HAND.

FWASH

ENOUGH!

WHATEVER ABYSS YOU CRAWLED FROM, DEMON, THIS IS STILL THE SANCTUM SANCTORUM. AND THAT IS MY DOMAIN.

NOW, SPIDER-MAN...

...LET'S SEE HOW MUCH OF A MESS YOU'VE MADE FOR YOURSELF.

CINDY MOON--

--ARE YOU ABLE TO HEAR ME?

AW, COME ON, DOC...YOU KNOW SHE'S PRESENTLY ***OCCUPIED***. AND IF SHE ***COULD*** TALK, IT'D MOSTLY BE JUST A BUNCH OF INCOHERENT SCREAMS, AND YOU SEEM LIKE YOU ***ALREADY*** HAVE A HEADACHE ON YOUR HANDS.

PROBABLY BEST TO JUST DEAL WITH ***ME***.

YOU WILL RELEASE HER, SIN-EATER--

"SIN"--WAIT. PETE, DID YOU NOT ***TELL*** HIM?

TELL ME WHAT?

I'M NOT THE SIN-EATER, DOC. I'M HONESTLY INSULTED. THAT GUY WAS JUST THE ***OPENING ACT***--THE ***WARMUP***.

THIS, NOW? THIS IS THE ***MAIN EVENT***.

IF YOU'RE NOT THE SIN-EATER, THEN WHO ***ARE*** YOU?

HH HH HH-- GO ON, PETE. ***TELL*** HIM. WHAT'S MY NAME?

KINDRED. HIS NAME IS KINDRED.

YOU *KNOW* WHO THIS IS?!

OH, PETE-- WITHHOLDING VITAL INFORMATION FROM YOUR DOCTOR. WHAT A LOUSY PATIENT YOU ARE.

WHY WOULDN'T YOU *TELL ME*?!

I DIDN'T KNOW--

OH YES, HE DID. HE JUST DOESN'T WANT TO *FACE* IT.

PETE HERE'S BEEN RUNNING FROM THE TRUTH FOR SO LONG, HE DOESN'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO ***STOP***.

THIS IS WHAT SIN DOES TO PEOPLE, AFTER ALL. MAKES THEM ***ASHAMED***, THEN ***AFRAID***. THEY HIDE.

BUT YOU CAN'T HIDE FROM ME ANYMORE, CAN YOU?

I'VE GOT YOUR ***MADAME WEB***. EVERY STEP YOU TAKE, EVERY BREATH YOU MAKE, I'M RIGHT BEHIND YOU.

THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY OUT OF THIS NOW. ONLY ONE WAY TO MAKE IT STOP.

CONFESS.

PETER-- GET BACK--

CONFESS.

GET B--

KAWOOM

CONFESS!

PLEASE, STOP THIS. I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU WANT ME TO SAY-- I'LL TELL YOU WHATEVER YOU WANNA HEAR-- JUST--

--JUST DON'T HURT THEM.

=SIGH= YOU KNOW WHAT, PETE, YOU'RE RIGHT. WE SHOULDN'T DO THIS OVER THE PHONE--

--AND YOU'VE ALREADY GOTTEN YOUR INVITATION.

I KNOW YOU'RE ON YOUR WAY. BUT I'D *HURRY* IF I WERE YOU.

YOUR FRIENDS ARE JUST *DYING* TO SEE YOU.

I'M SORRY I DIDN'T SAY SOMETHING SOONER, DOC. I ***SHOULD'VE***. I WAS GETTING THERE, I JUST--

WELL, THAT PART THAT ***THING*** SAID ABOUT...SHAME, OR GUILT--I DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHY, BUT MUCH AS I HATE TO ADMIT IT--

--IT DOESN'T FEEL TOTALLY ***WRONG.***

I DON'T KNOW WHO THIS KINDRED IS. I DON'T KNOW WHAT HE WANTS OR WHY HE'S DOING THIS TO THE OTHERS.

BUT I KNOW I'M THE ***CAUSE*** OF IT. AND SOMEHOW--

--WHAT I DID BACK AT ***RAVENCROFT*** OPENED THE DOOR TO ALL OF IT.

I GET I'M OUTSIDE OF MY ZONE HERE. DEMONS, POSSESSION.

I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GONNA SAY. YOU'RE GONNA GET YOUR OMINOUS FACE ON. AND YOU'RE GONNA SAY, "THESE ARE POWERFUL FORCES BEYOND YOUR COMPREHENSION, PETER."

I DON'T HAVE AN OMINOUS FACE.

JUST--HEAR ME OUT, OKAY?

I HAVE TO ***DO*** SOMETHING. THESE PEOPLE ARE MY ***FRIENDS.*** SOME OF THEM PUT THAT SPIDER ON ***BECAUSE*** OF ME.

A COUPLE OF THEM ARE ***KIDS.*** MY POINT IS--

--THIS IS *MY* RESPONSIBILITY.

HE'S NOT GOING TO STOP WITH CHASING ME DOWN.

SOONER OR LATER, HE'S GOING TO TURN ON THEM. USE THEM TO GET TO ME. HE'S TOLD ME AS MUCH. AND I WILL NOT LET THAT *HAPPEN.*

FOR AS LONG AS I'VE BEEN PUTTING THIS SUIT ON, ONE DERANGED MONSTER AFTER ANOTHER HAS USED THE PEOPLE I LOVE AS *PAWNS.* I HAVE LOST SO MANY OF THEM...

BUT THAT ENDS HERE. IT *HAS* TO.

SO WHATEVER YOU THINK CAN BE DONE--TO FIND HIM, TO FREE THEM--I AM *IN.* BUT UNDERSTAND THIS--

--I WILL *BE THERE. I'LL* BE THE ONE TO FACE HIM. AND I AM *NOT* TAKING *NO* FOR AN *ANSWER.*

OKAY.

WAIT-- REALLY?

SURE. WE CAN TRY. BUT WE'RE GOING TO NEED SOME WAY TO TURN THE TABLES.

IF THIS KINDRED IS USING MADAME WEB TO STALK YOU, THEN PERHAPS WE CAN USE THAT TO OUR ADVANTAGE.

THE WEB OF LIFE AND DESTINY CONNECTS YOU.

THAT CONNECTION CAN LEAD US TO THEM AND, MORE IMPORTANTLY, STRAIGHT TO THE *DEMON* BEHIND ALL THIS.

YOU CAN DO THAT?

NO.

YOU CAN.

YOU SHARE THE TOTEM. YOU CAN ACCESS THE WEB THROUGH THE ASTRAL PLANE. YOU'LL JUST NEED THE RIGHT BRIDGE, AND I HAVE JUST THE THING...

YOU MIGHT EVEN *RECOGNIZE* IT.

YOU MAY RECOGNIZE IT TOO, FROM THE CLASSIC JMS/JRJR ASM #42! --NL

THE *HAND OF VISHANTI.*

STRANGE LET ME USE IT WHEN I WAS DEALING WITH THIS GUY *SHADE.*

IT GAVE ME ACCESS TO THE ASTRAL PLANE, SURE, BUT NOT EVERYTHING WENT SMOOTHLY ON THAT FRONT.

THIS TIME HAS TO BE DIFFERENT, THOUGH, RIGHT?

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WAIT-- SOMETHING'S WRONG HERE--

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WHAT IS THIS--

WAIT--WHAT JUST HAPPENED? WHY AM I STILL *HERE?*

I'M SORRY. THIS-- THIS WON'T WORK.

WHAT DO YOU *MEAN,* IT WON'T WORK?! YOU JUST SAID IT *WOULD--*

I'M VERY *AWARE* OF WHAT I SAID, BUT THAT WAS BEFORE.

BEFORE *WHAT?*

PETER, HAVE YOU EVER MADE A KIND OF... *ARRANGEMENT...* IN REGARD TO YOUR--

NO. IT'S IMPOSSIBLE.

I NEED TO INVESTIGATE THIS.

INVESTIGATE *WHAT?!* WE DON'T HAVE TIME! WE HAVE TO HELP THEM--

I HAVE TO HELP THEM--

--AND I *WILL.* BY FINDING ANOTHER WAY--

--ONE WHICH WILL NOT REQUIRE YOUR ASSISTANCE. SO IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME...

NO, HEY, I CAN'T JUST LET YOU--

LET ME? PETER, LOOK AT ME.

THIS IS MY OMINOUS FACE.

FWAM

KRUNCH

OKAY, THAT DIDN'T GO GREAT. BUT THEN--

--THESE THINGS *RARELY* GO THE WAY YOU EXPECT THEM TO.

THE HAND OF VISHANTI!

LIKE I SAID BEFORE, I TOLD HIM EVERYTHING.

ALMOST EVERYTHING.

HOW DID I BEAT YOU HERE?

DID YOU GET IT?

AFTER THE FIGHT ON THE ESCAPE POD, I KNEW I HAD TO DO SOMETHING, AND *FAST.*

AND I KNEW DR. STRANGE WOULD BE THE ONLY ONE WHO COULD HELP.

BUT I *ALSO* KNEW HOW THE DOC COULD BE ABOUT THESE THINGS.

SO BEFORE I SHOWED UP AT THE SANCTUM--

--I MADE SURE TO KNOCK ON SOMEONE *ELSE'S* DOOR FIRST.

WOW--

--LOOK WHAT THE CAT DRAGGED IN.

DID YOU GET IT?

PLEASE--

--IT'S NOT EVEN THE *FIRST TIME* I ROBBED THAT PLACE.

THANK YOU, FELICIA. SERIOUSLY.

DON'T MENTION IT. BUT I GOTTA ASK--DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW TO *USE* THAT THING?

THAT DEPENDS. WERE YOU ABLE TO RECORD THAT INCANTATION LIKE I ASKED?

YEAH...

THEN WE'RE ABOUT TO FIND OUT.

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WAITASECOND.

I'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE.

DON'T EVER FORGET TO WEAR CLEAN UNDERW

I HAD A CONVERSATION WITH STRANGE HERE ONCE. IT'S MY DREAMSCAPE, MY CONNECTION TO THE ASTRAL PLANE.

HE GAVE ME A LECTURE ABOUT HOW DANGEROUS "STRAYING FROM THE PATH" WAS. *OBVIOUSLY* I TOOK IT ALL TO HEART.

BUT THIS PLACE--IT'S *CHANGED*--

--AND NOT FOR THE BETTER.

IT DIDN'T USED TO BE ALL WRECKAGE AND RUINS.

PUMP KEN BOMBS

SHVARTZE KATZE

Ye olde VILLAINS Costume Shoppe

HATE SPIDEY Specials 24-7

AND THERE WERE PEOPLE HERE. THEY ALL LOOKED LIKE--

NEVER FORGE

I'LL BE BACK

HEY, TIGER.

MISS ME?

MJ?

I KNOW IT'S A DREAM.

I *KNOW* THAT.

MJ...

SO WHY DON'T I *FEEL* IT?

I SEE THE NIGHTMARE COMING--

--BUT I CAN'T SEEM TO STOP IT.

NO...

IT'S OKAY, PETER--

--THE ANSWER IS YES.

WHY CAN'T I EVER *STOP* IT?

MJ!

I KNOW THAT WAS HARD, PETE.

ALL OF IT HAS BEEN, REALLY.

YOU'VE BEEN BROKEN DOWN SO MANY WAYS.

BURIED IN A HEAP OF REGRET AND FEAR.

BUT I KNOW YOU. AND JUST LIKE ALWAYS--

--YOU'LL GET BACK UP AGAIN.

I NEED YOU TO UNDERSTAND WHY IT HAD TO BE THIS WAY, THOUGH.

WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU, PETE--

--WAITING FOR SO LONG.

IT WAS COLD AND DARK FIRST, THEN IT WAS BRIGHT, BURNING FIRE.

WE FOUGHT THROUGH ALL OF IT, JUST TO GET TO THIS MOMENT.

THERE WAS HEARTBREAK, AND PAIN, AND TEARS. BUT THAT'S ALL BEHIND US NOW.

AND SINCE YOU'VE FINALLY ARRIVED, WELL--

NOW IT'S A PARTY.

#50 VARIANT BY INHYUK LEE

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KINDRED.

FOR *MONTHS* I'VE HAD THE NAME SCRATCHING AT THE BACK OF MIND.

BEFORE TODAY, I'D SEEN HIS FACE IN MY NIGHTMARES--

--BUT THE SCARS HE'S LEFT HAVE BEEN *MORE* THAN REAL.

HE KILLED *MENDEL STROMM.*

THEN *MYSTERIO.*

HE LET LOOSE THE *SIN-EATER.*

I KNEW THAT SOON ENOUGH HE'D COME FOR *ME.*

I TOLD MYSELF I'D NEED TO BE READY, BECAUSE EVERY BONE IN MY BODY WAS WARNING ME THAT THIS MIGHT BE WORSE THAN ANYTHING I'D GONE UP AGAINST BEFORE.

THEN IT HAPPENED.

WE'RE FINALLY *FACE-TO-FACE--*

--AND I CAN'T EVEN *LOOK* AT HIM.

WH... WHAT... WHAT IS THIS?

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

SIGH
I DID THE SAME THING I'VE BEEN TRYING TO DO ALL ALONG, PETE.

GET YOU TO FACE THE *TRUTH.*

BUT NOTHING I'VE DONE THUS FAR SEEMED TO DO THE TRICK. SO--

--CONSIDER THIS AN *INTERVENTION.*

WE'RE ALL HERE BECAUSE WE *CARE* ABOUT YOU...

GEORGE STACY...

BECAUSE WE *LOVE* YOU...

JEAN DEWOLFF...

AND MOST IMPORTANTLY OF ALL--

MARLA JAMESON...

FLASH...

GWENDIE-- NO...

OH GOD--

BEN.

--BECAUSE WE'RE *FAMILY.*

I CAN SEE YOU'RE *ANGRY.* I *EXPECTED* THAT.

IT'S PERFECTLY *NATURAL,* WHEN YOU'RE CONFRONTED LIKE THIS, TO *LASH OUT.* TO BLAME OTHERS.

BUT YOU NEED TO REMEMBER-- I DIDN'T KILL THESE PEOPLE.

YOU DID.

MONSTER!

OH, PETE...

YOU DON'T KNOW THE *HALF* OF IT.

FWOP

SLAM

SLITCH

SL-KRAM

KOOM

HE'S TOO FAST--

TOO STRONG--

DON'T EVEN KNOW WHO I'M UP AGAINST.

KRASH

WH-- WHO ARE YOU?

WRONG QUESTION.

IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO I *WAS*, PETE.

IT MATTERS WHAT I'VE *BECOME*.

ALL YOUR GHOSTS LIVE ON THROUGH ME.

FOR ALL YOU KNOW--

--I COULD BE SITTING RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU.

NO.

COME ON.

FIGHT BACK!

THWIP

THWIP

MOVE FAST!

THWAP

THWAP

GROOM

YOU'RE ONLY GOING TO GET *ONE CHANCE* AT THIS.

BRUP

KUNK

KRAK

PHOD

KTHUNK

OH, IS THIS THE PART OF THE STORY WHERE THE *AMAZING SPIDER-MAN* SOMEHOW FINDS IT IN HIMSELF TO OVERCOME THE IMPOSSIBLE ODDS?

GO ON THEN, PETE. GIVE ME YOUR BEST--

--SHOT.

RUNCH

YOU SEE? THERE'S NOTHING LEFT TO FIGHT.

THIS IS ALREADY OVER.

THE DAMAGE IS DONE...

...AND THE ONLY ONE YOU HAVE TO BLAME IS YOURSELF.

YOU ARE-- AS ALWAYS-- THE CAUSE OF YOUR OWN SUFFERING.

YOU MIGHT AS WELL BE FIGHTING THE *MIRROR.*

NOW, I *UNDERSTAND* THAT CAN BE HARD TO ACCEPT.

BUT MAYBE I CAN SHOW YOU.

SHATTER

NOT JUST HER.

JULIA?!

WHAT IS--

PEOPLE RUNNING...

OUTSIDE...

AHHS

WHERE AM I?

TAKE A LOOK, PETE.

SEE WHAT YOU'VE DONE TO THEM.

ALL THOSE SINS, *BOTTLED UP.*

THEY HAD TO GO *SOMEWHERE.*

IMAGINE WHAT THEY'LL DO TO THE CITY.

IMAGINE WHAT THEY'LL DO TO *EACH OTHER.*

NO.

Nooo!

LISTEN TO ME! *LISTEN* TO ME...*WHOEVER* YOU ARE! WHATEVER IT IS I DID TO YOU--

--*I'M* THE ONE YOU WANT. NOT *THEM*, OKAY?

THEY DIDN'T DO ANYTHING TO DESERVE THIS-- THEY'RE NOT THE ONE YOU HATE. YOU WANNA KILL SOMEONE?

KILL ME!

PLEASE-- I DON'T *CARE* ANYMORE. JUST...TAKE *ME*. *TAKE ME!*

YOU KNOW WHAT, PETE?

YOU'VE GOT A *DEAL.*

VVVVVVVVVVVVV

WOSH

COME ON.

COME ON!

WAKE UP.

THWIP

WAKE--

--UP!

THANK GOD.

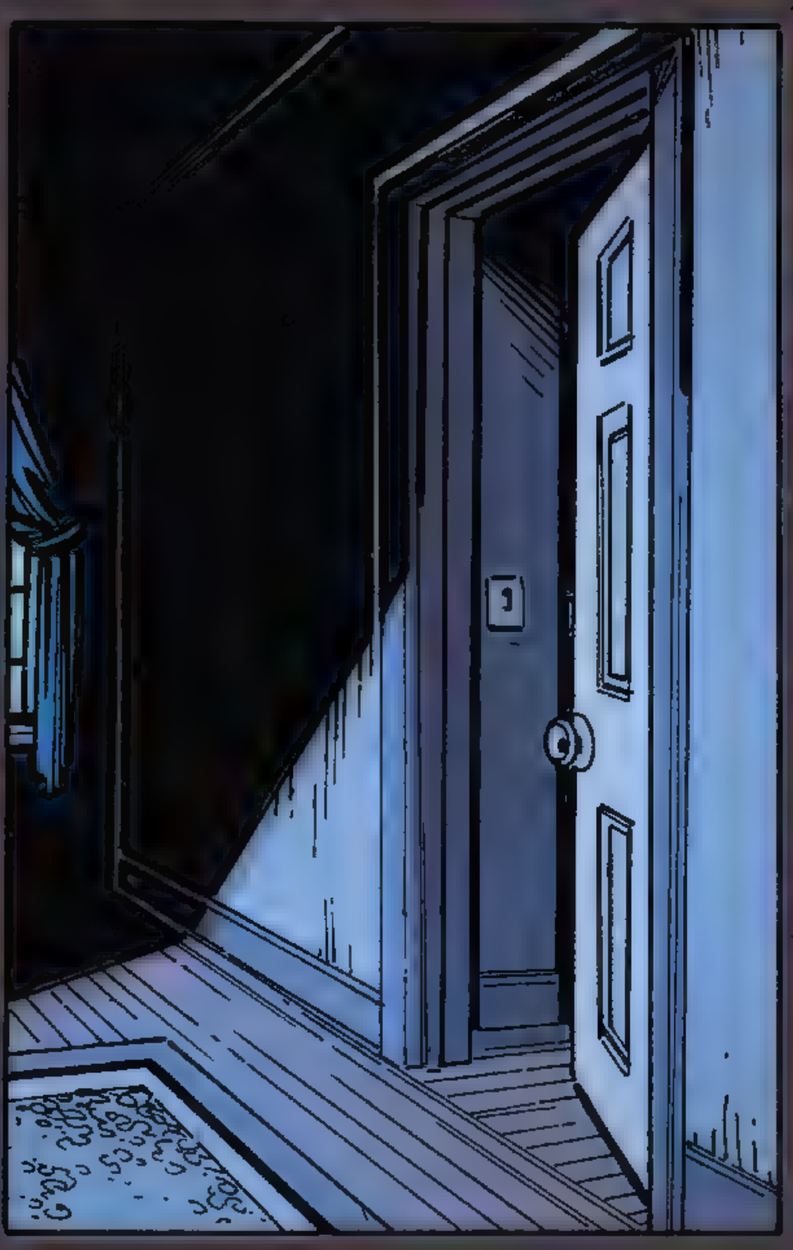
THEY'RE OKAY.

THEY'RE ALL OKAY.

NOW... ABOUT THAT *DEAL.*

LET'S GO FACE THE TRUTH TOGETHER.

SNAP!



WHEN I WAS A BOY I COULD SLEEP THROUGH *ANYTHING.*

WH-- WHERE AM--?

HOME.

GOOD MORNING-- *UHRRM--* RATHER, GOOD *AFTERNOON,* TIGER!

I DIDN'T HAVE THE HEART TO WAKE YOU. YOU'VE NEVER LOOKED MORE *PEACEFUL.*

AUNT MAY-- WHAT ARE YOU--WHAT ARE YOU *DOING* HERE?

WHY, I HAPPEN TO *LIVE* HERE.

BUT I'LL FORGIVE YOUR CHEEKINESS IF YOU SIT YOUR TUSH DOWN AND HAVE A DECENT *BREAKFAST* FOR A CHANGE.

...BREAKFAST?

PETER? ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? YOU SEEM A BIT... UNDER STRESS. IS IT BECAUSE YOU'RE RUNNING LATE?

LATE FOR *WHAT?*

OH DEAR, YOU REALLY *AREN'T* FEELING WELL, ARE YOU?

FOR THE *PARTY,* OF COURSE!

SLOW DOWN...YOU MOVE TOO FAST...

TOWERS

I REMEMBER THIS...

I REMEMBER WHAT *DAY* THIS IS.

ELEVATOR ON THE RIGHT, PUSH ***PENTHOUSE.*** YOU BETTER HURRY OR YOU'LL MISS THE SURPRISE.

THAT'S THE ***BEST*** PART.

THE ***PARTY.***

FLASH...

FLASH-- IS IT REALLY Y--

EASY THERE, BUDDY. WHERE THE HECK HAVE YOU BEEN?

YOU ALMOST MISSED THE SURPRISE, AND THAT'S THE BEST--

WAIT--

MJ!!!

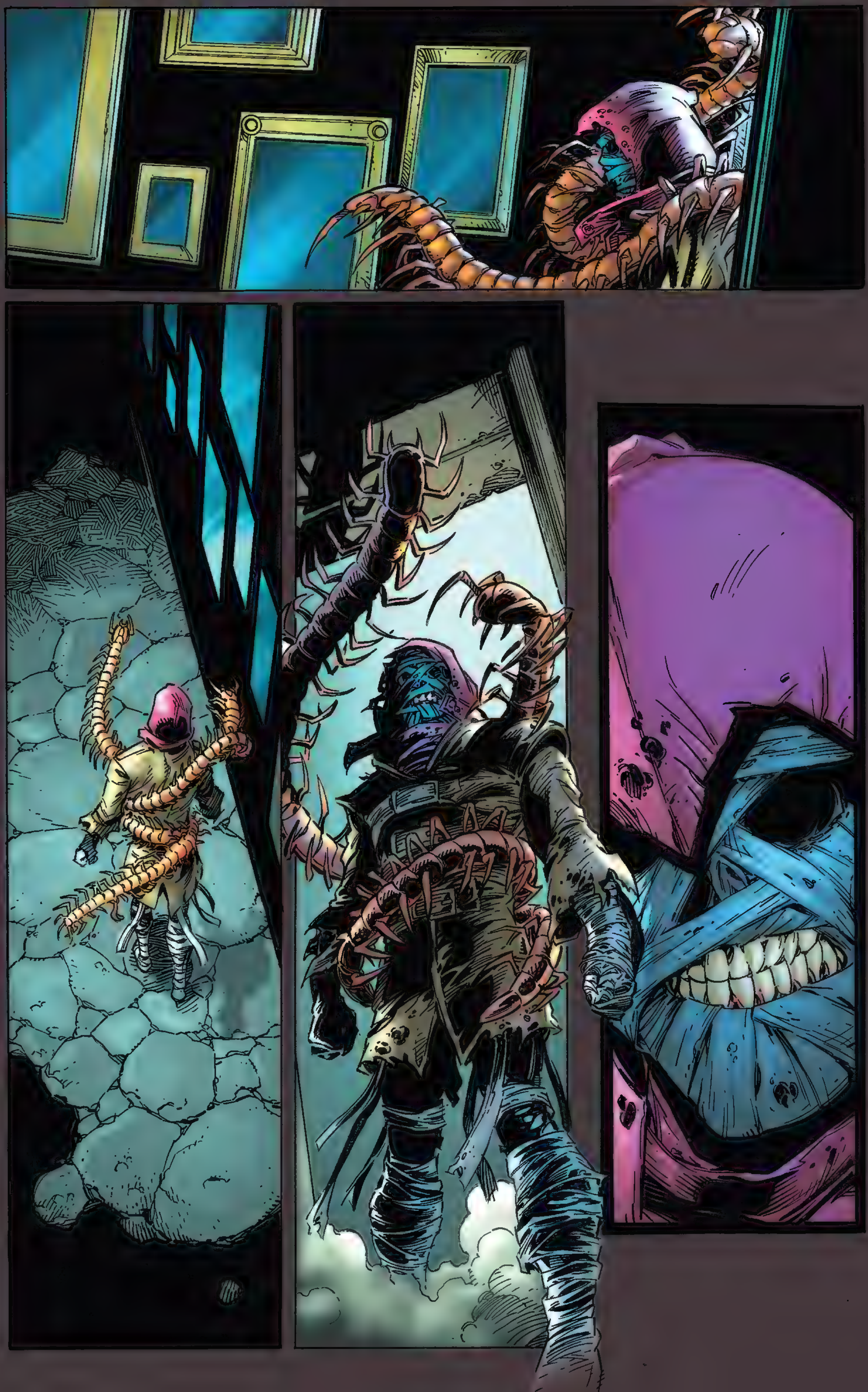
SHHHHHH, EVERYBODY!

SHHHHH, SHHHHH, QUIET. THEY'RE HERE, THEY'RE HERE.

DING!

SURPRISE!!!

ALL THIS FOR LITTLE OL' ME?



MJ--

MJ--
WAIT--

THERE THEY ARE!

WUZZUP, BOYS! I WANT TO INTRODUCE YOU TO--

NOT NOW!

LILY. LILY HOLLISTER--

MJ!

CARLIE COOPER! LILY'S BEST FRIEND SINCE--

MJ!

HEADS UP, KIDS!

A MAN DOESN'T LIVE IN *EUROPE* FOR AS LONG AS I DID AND NOT GET TO TOAST WITH HIS *BEST PALS.*

YOU KNOW THE WORST THING ABOUT HELL, FELLAS?

THE PARTIES SUCK.

NO...

HARRY-- NO...

SAME OL' BORING PETER. GOD, IT'S GREAT TO BE BACK.

WHAT WAS IT YOU SAID NEXT, THEN, BUDDY?

PLEASE--

OH, COME ON, YOU REMEMBER...

"WELL, YOU KNOW WHAT THEY ALWAYS SAY--"

"SPEAK

"OF

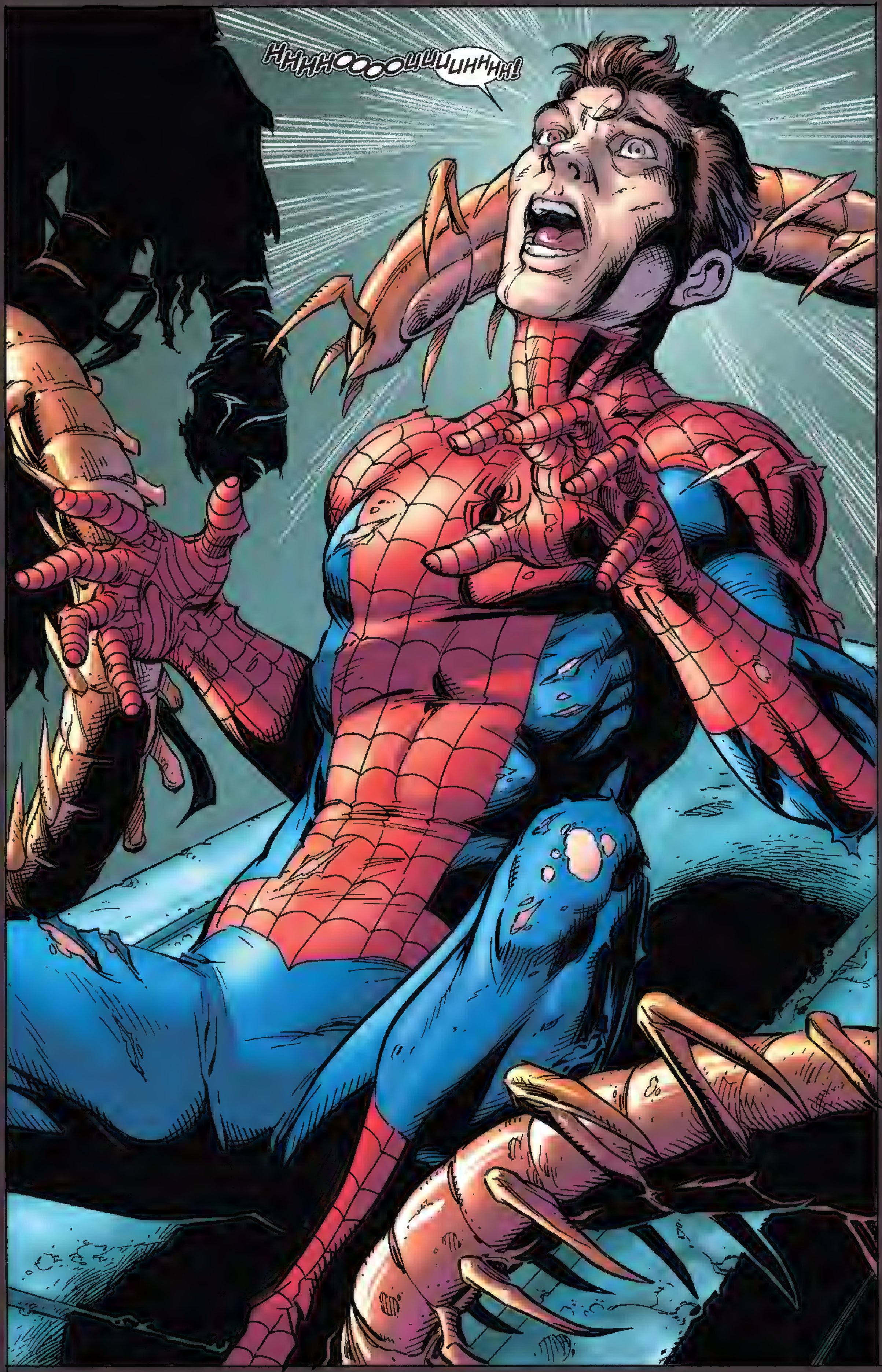
"THE

"DEVIL

"AND

"HE

"APPEARS."


Нннноооооиииинннн!

HRRKK!

THERE, THERE...

DISORIENTING, ISN'T IT?

LIKE LEARNING TO BREATHE ALL OVER AGAIN. I'VE DONE IT SO MANY TIMES--

--YET I *NEVER* GET USED TO IT.

BUT IT SEEMS LIKE IT WAS *WORTH THE TRIP,* YEAH?

N-NO...

I CAN TELL YOU'RE *DISAPPOINTED*, PETE.

I GET THAT.

BUT LET'S FINALLY BE HONEST.

YOU ALWAYS *KNEW* IT WAS ME.

NO--

YOU JUST DIDN'T WANT TO *ADMIT* IT.

NO--

NO, IT CAN'T BE!!!

=SIGH= YOU NEED TO *ACCEPT* THIS, OLD BUDDY.

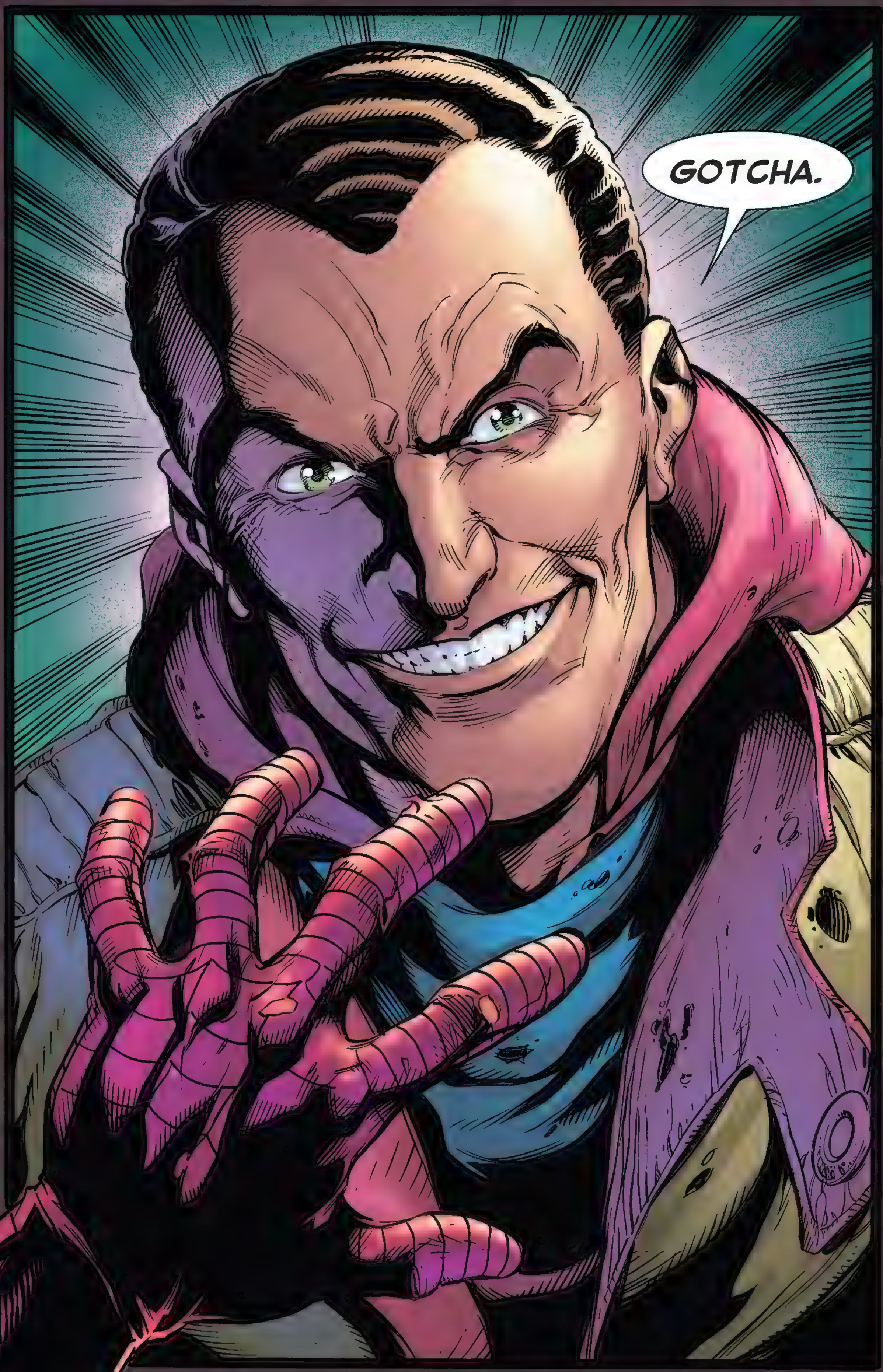
IT'S THE ONLY WAY WE CAN MOVE FORWARD. JUST THE *TWO* OF US.

BECAUSE WE HAVE SO MUCH *WORK* TO DO, YOU AND I.

LIKE I KEEP TRYING TO TELL YOU, PETE...

IT'S NOT WHO I AM--

--IT'S WHAT I WANT.


GOTCHA.

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NO-- I DON'T BELIEVE IT.

I *WON'T* BELIEVE IT.

OH, IT'S *ME*, PETE.

YOUR OLD PAL, *HARRY OSBORN.*

NO. I *KNOW* YOU, HAR.

WE'VE BEEN THROUGH THIS BEFORE. MORE TIMES THAN I CARE TO *REMEMBER*. I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU OR HOW LONG THIS HAS BEEN GOING ON, BUT--

--WE CAN GET THROUGH THIS. *TOGETHER.* IT'S NOT TOO LATE.

NOBODY ELSE HAS TO GET HURT.

I--I DON'T WANT ANYONE TO GET HURT...

WHAM

...THAT'S WHY I HAVE TO *STOP* YOU.

STOP *ME?* LIKE I SAID, HAR, WE'VE BEEN THROUGH THIS BEFORE--

--YOU ALWAYS LOSE!

HEH. YOU'RE *RIGHT,* PETE.

KRAK

LET ME *SHOW* YOU HOW I'VE CHANGED.

CHANGED? THAT'S *RICH*, EVEN FOR *YOU*. SAME OLD STORY--

--HARRY OSBORN AND HIS *DADDY ISSUES!*

SLAM

YOU KNOW, YOU REALLY *HAD* ME THIS TIME--THINKING YOU WERE SOME ALL-POWERFUL *MONSTER*--

CHAK

FWAK

--NOT THE SAME SAD, BROKEN *CHILD* I'VE HAD TO FIGHT FOR *YEARS!*

DON'T YOU EVER GET *TIRED* OF THIS? BEING THE *CLICHÉ?* THE FIRST NAME ANYONE GUESSES WHEN THINGS START GOING WRONG?!

FF-KRASH

FAK

WELL, YOU MADE A MISTAKE THIS TIME, HAR-- YOU WENT AFTER MY *FRIENDS!* PEOPLE I *CARE* ABOUT!

KRAK

IF YOU DIDN'T WANT ME TO *STOP* YOU, WELL, OLD PAL--

GHOOM

--YOU SHOULD'VE LEFT ME *DEAD!!!*

...DEAD?

IS *THAT* WHAT YOU THINK THIS IS ABOUT?

KILLING YOU?

SIGH PETE, THERE IS *SO MUCH* ABOUT ALL THIS YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND.

YOU THINK THIS IS JUST ANOTHER *BREAKDOWN.*

THOK

POOR HARRY IS HEARING *VOICES.*

HAUNTED BY THE *GHOST* OF HIS *FATHER.*

I PROMISE YOU, I'M *PAST* ALL THAT.

SLAM

I'M NO LONGER CHASED BY THOSE *DEMONS--*

KRAK

--I AM THE DEMON.

THOK

CRUKK

AND I AM GOING TO *SHOW* YOU WHAT *HELL* LOOKS LIKE.

IT'S THE ABSENCE OF *LIGHT*. THE ABSENCE OF *HOPE*.

IT'S SOMETHING SO MUCH *WORSE* THAN DEATH. HERE--

--HAVE A LOOK.

THWAK

KRAK

CHUCH

FWASH

NOW RISE.

W-WAIT--

NO--

--AGAIN.

SLASH

AND AGAIN.

SPLOSH

AND AGAIN.

FWISH

AND AGAIN.

ULP

FFRUNCH

AND AGAIN.

AGAIN!

KRAK!

AGAIN!

YOU *SEE* NOW?

DYING IS *EASY.*

IT'S SOMETHING THAT'S DONE *TO* US.

BUT IN *HELL,* WE'RE NOT PUNISHED FOR THE SINS OF *OTHERS--*

--WE'RE TORTURED BY *OUR OWN.*

YOU ACCUSED ME BEFORE OF GOING AFTER THE PEOPLE YOU LOVED.

THAT'S NOT TRUE. I *HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING* TO THEM.

YOU HAVE, THOUGH.

AND NOW YOU'RE GOING TO SEE WHAT IT DOES TO *THEM* IN TURN.

I'M SURE YOU'LL WANT TO BLAME *ME*, PETE. BUT SEARCH YOUR SOUL.

"ALL I DID WAS BRING BACK THE *SIN-EATER.*"

YOU WERE THE ONE WHO COULDN'T LET THAT STAND.

"EVEN WHEN HE WENT AFTER THE MOST EVIL MAN YOU'D EVER KNOWN."

NO, *YOU* DECIDED--LIKE YOU *ALWAYS* DO--THAT *YOU* KNEW BEST.

"THINKING YOU KNOW BETTER THAN *ALL* OF US.

"THAT'S YOUR *JOB*, ISN'T IT?"

BUT THAT'S WHERE IT ALL TAKES A TURN. YOU REALIZED THE ENORMITY OF WHAT YOU'D DONE, TAKING THOSE SINS AS YOUR OWN. YOU FELT THE SHAME OF IT.

RATHER THAN *CONFRONT* IT, THOUGH--

--YOU TRIED TO *BURY* IT.

AND THIS IS ONE OF THE THINGS I'M TRYING TO *TEACH* YOU, PETE--THE NATURE OF SIN.

YOU CANNOT *RUN* FROM IT. YOU CANNOT *HIDE* FROM IT. IT FINDS YOU. AND WHEN IT DOES--

--IT COMES BACK *WORSE* THAN EVER BEFORE.

YOU STILL WEREN'T READY THOUGH, WERE YOU? TO CONFESS. NO. INSTEAD--

--YOU TRIED TO *BARGAIN.*

MAKE A *DEAL WITH THE DEVIL.*

THE SAME MISTAKES. OVER AND OVER.

WAIT, THAT'S *MORLUN.*

YOUR ARROGANCE. YOUR *HUBRIS.*

WHAT IS THIS?

SEE HOW IT JUST MAKES EVERYTHING *WORSE?*

OH NO--

"--THEY'RE *HERE.*"

ROSS
J DREW

THEY'RE WALKING RIGHT INTO A TRAP! YOU TOLD ME YOU WOULD LET THEM *LIVE!* YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO LET THEM GO!

AND I DID. YOU SEE? THE CONSEQUENCES OF OUR ACTIONS BEING *UNINTENDED* DOES NOT ABSOLVE US.

I DIDN'T BRING THEM HERE. *YOU* DID.

YOUR INTERFERENCE, YOUR VERY PRESENCE IN THEIR LIVES IS WHAT LEADS THEM TO THE SLAUGHTER.

NOW THINK, PETE--WHAT *ELSE* MIGHT YOU HAVE DONE THAT COULD CAUSE SUCH SUFFERING?

WHAT IS IT YOU'D LIKE TO *CONFESS?*

I--I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT...

HMM. WELL, I'D THINK FAST IF I WERE YOU. YOUR FRIENDS--THEY'RE STRONG, THEY CAN PUT UP A FIGHT FOR A WHILE.

NOT EVERYONE IS SO LUCKY. THE WAGES OF SIN, PETE--

OH MY GOD.

--SOMEONE *ALWAYS* PAYS THE PRICE.

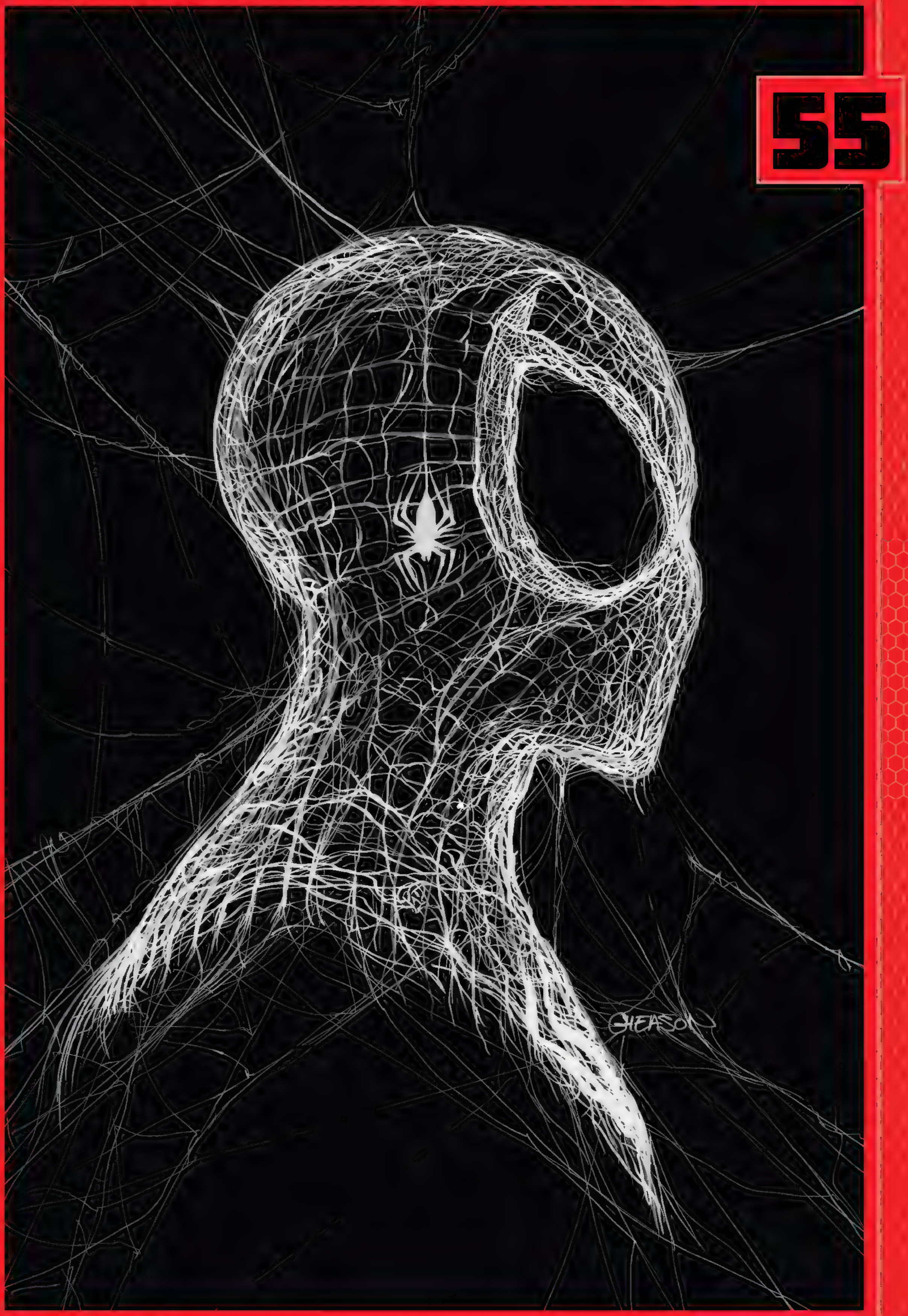
NO! NO, HARRY, DON'T DO THIS! *PLEASE--*

CONFESS, OLD FRIEND.

NO--

NOOO!

CONFESS!!!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GLEASON

I NEVER UNDERSTOOD THIS, PETE...

YOU'D ALWAYS BEEN SUCH A LONER.

YOU REFUSED TO WORK WITH ANYONE ELSE, ALWAYS FOUND A WAY TO BURN THE BRIDGE.

BUT THEN ONE DAY, SUDDENLY, YOU WERE SURROUNDED BY ALL THESE...*OTHERS.* WEARING YOUR SYMBOL.

SHARING YOUR NAME.

IT JUST SEEMED SO *UNLIKE* YOU. UNTIL I REALIZED WHAT YOU WERE TRYING TO DO.

IF POOR LITTLE ORPHAN BOY PETER PARKER COULDN'T HAVE ONE, AT LEAST *SPIDER-MAN* WOULD, RIGHT?

A FAMILY.

HARRY, PLEASE--STOP. THEY'VE GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS.

OH, I ***DISAGREE***, PETE. I THINK THEY HAVE ***EVERYTHING*** TO DO WITH IT. THEY'RE A SYMPTOM OF THE LARGER PROBLEM--

--YOUR ***SELFISHNESS***. SOME OF THEM ARE ***CHILDREN***, FOR GOD'S SAKE.

YOU KNOW EVERYONE THAT GETS TANGLED UP IN YOUR WEB DIES. AND YET, YOU DON'T STOP DRAWING THEM IN. NOTHING EVER ***CHANGES*** WITH YOU, PETE. I MEAN, LOOK AT THIS.

I BROUGHT YOU HERE TO HAVE DINNER WITH THE DEAD--

--AND NOW HERE WE ARE AGAIN.

BUT IT HAS TO END SOMEWHERE, OLD PAL. SO, SHALL WE ALL EAT?

J-JUST GET IT OVER WITH--

I'M SORRY, "GWEN." WHAT WAS THAT?

...YOU SEEM PRETTY *OBSESSED.*

IF YOU'RE-- *NFF*--GONNA KILL US, *KILL US.*

BUT SPARE US THE SPEECH ABOUT HOW IT'S ALL ABOUT *HIM.* NONE OF US ASKED HIM FOR A PERMISSION SLIP. YOU, ON THE OTHER HAND...

HH. YOU KNOW, MAYBE IT'S MY...*UNIQUE PERSPECTIVE*...BUT YOU ACTUALLY DON'T REMIND ME OF HER MUCH AT ALL.

THERE IS ONE THING, THOUGH, THAT RINGS A BELL.

HAVE YOU NOTICED HOW HE KEEPS STARING OFF PAST YOU? PAST *ALL* OF YOU?

HEH. JUST LIKE THE *OLD DAYS,* PETE.

"YOU ALWAYS HAD ONE EYE ON *HER*."

MJ! NO--GET OUT OF HERE!

NONSENSE, PETE. MJ, DON'T LISTEN TO HIM. PLEASE--

--DO COME IN.

YOU DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH IT WARMS MY COLD, DEAD HEART--

--TO HAVE US ALL FINALLY TOGETHER AGAIN.

GLAD TO HEAR IT...

...HARRY.

HH. SO YOU KNOW, THEN.

WELL, THAT'S FOR THE BEST, I SUPPOSE.

COME ON-- HAVE A SEAT. YOU DON'T KNOW HOW EXCITED I AM TO CATCH UP. THE STORIES I COULD *TELL!*

HARRY, I DON'T THINK--

OH, GIVE IT A REST.

DO IT FOR AN OLD FRIEND.

CHKSH

GET THE HELL AWAY FROM HER!

KRUNCH

THWIP

KA-THWIP

ENOUGH!

HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO *KILL* YOU BEFORE YOU ACCEPT IT?

YOU DON'T HAVE A CHANCE, PETE. THEN AGAIN--

--MAYBE MAKING HER *WATCH* WILL HELP.

STOP!!!

STOP.

YOU WANNA HAVE *DINNER*, HARRY?

LET'S HAVE DINNER.

I APPRECIATE THAT, MJ. I REALLY DO. I'M JUST NOT SURE *PETE* IS FEELING UP FOR IT.

NONSENSE.

COME ON, TIGER.

LIKE THE MAN SAID--

--HAVE A SEAT.

WONDERFUL!

SHE'S IN.

AND THEN SHE SAID--

"HOW ABOUT PAYING SOME ATTENTION TO THE STAR?"

HA HA HA HA!

AH, WE HAD SOME GOOD TIMES BACK THEN, DIDN'T WE?

I WISH YOU ALL COULD HAVE *SEEN* HIM BACK IN THOSE DAYS. ALL OF US, REALLY.

WE HAD THE WHOLE WORLD IN FRONT OF US.

PETE WAS GOING TO BE A GREAT SCIENTIST.

I WAS GONNA INHERIT MY FAMILY'S EMPIRE.

AND *YOU*, MJ--

--YOU WERE GONNA BE *FAMOUS*.

"AND SITTING THERE IN THAT CROWD THAT NIGHT, WATCHING YOU ON STAGE--I BELIEVED IT WAS GOING TO HAPPEN. FOR *ALL* OF US.

"YOU WERE A HIT IN YOUR FIRST BIG BREAK, PETE HAD JUST ACCEPTED A JOB WITH MY FATHER--"

--BUT THEN THERE WAS *ME*.

I SUPPOSE THAT NIGHT WAS REALLY WHEN IT ALL STARTED TO GO WRONG FOR ME, WASN'T IT? I SHOULD'VE KNOWN--

"--THERE WAS NEVER GOING TO BE A PLACE FOR *ME* IN THAT STORY."*

*BACK IN *ASM #40!* --NL

YOU SEE, PETE AND GWEN--THE *REAL* GWEN, I MEAN--HAD BROKEN UP. SHE WAS IN EUROPE. IT WAS VERY... *COMPLICATED.*

BUT AS SOON AS PETE WAS BACK IN TOWN, MJ WAS DONE WITH ME.

THAT'S NOT TRUE, HARRY--

OH, PLEASE. IT WAS ALWAYS *OBVIOUS* WITH THE TWO OF YOU.

UNREAL.

YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY STILL BE BLAMING ME FOR THIS. IT WASN'T TRUE. BUT EVEN IF IT *HAD* BEEN... WE WERE *KIDS.*

PLENTY OF US DEAL WITH HEARTBREAK. WE DON'T ALL COLLAPSE LIKE YOU DID. BUT THEN I GUESS *THE GREAT HARRY OSBORN* WASN'T USED TO NOT GETTING EVERYTHING HE WANTED.

PETER--

IT'S OKAY, MJ--HE NEEDS TO *HEAR* THIS. BECAUSE NO MATTER WHAT HE PLANS TO DO, I CAN'T STOP HIM, RIGHT?

SO MAYBE I CAN AT LEAST SAVE US FROM HIS *SELF-PITY.* YOU WANNA PONDER WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN, HAR? FINE. BUT DON'T FORGET WHO GOT YOU TO THE HOSPITAL THAT NIGHT--

--AND NOT FOR THE *LAST* TIME.

HH. YOU'RE *RIGHT,* PETE. I GUESS I JUST CAN'T HELP WONDERING WHERE IT ALL WENT WRONG. LIKE THAT NIGHT WHEN YOU CALLED THE DOCTOR--WHO SHOWED UP AT THE WINDOW BUT DEAR OLD DAD...

"...THE *GREEN GOBLIN."**

*THIS ONE BACK IN ASM #97! --NL

OF COURSE, I DIDN'T KNOW ANY OF THAT AT THE TIME. I WAS *UNCONSCIOUS.* AND EVEN IF I *HADN'T* BEEN--I DIDN'T KNOW THE TRUTH ABOUT HIM AND WHAT HE'D BECOME.

BUT YOU *DID*, DIDN'T YOU?

YOU *KNEW*, AND YOU *KEPT* IT FROM ME.

I WAS TRYING TO *PROTECT* YOU. I KNEW IT WOULD DEVASTATE YOU. YOU WORSHIPPED HIM--

HE WAS MY *FATHER!!!*

I HAD A RIGHT TO KNOW! IT WAS *MY* FAMILY, NOT *YOURS!* I COULD'VE GOTTEN HIM HELP. YOU JUST LET HIM WALK FREE!

KRSH

I--I DIDN'T KNOW HE WAS STILL A *THREAT.* HE HAD SUFFERED AMNESIA AFTER OUR LAST FIGHT. HE DIDN'T EVEN REMEMBER HE WAS THE *GOBLIN*--

THERE WE ARE. THERE'S THE *LIE.* YOU LET HIM GO BECAUSE OF THE AMNESIA.

YEAH, PETE, THAT'S RIGHT. BUT NOT BECAUSE HE DIDN'T REMEMBER WHO *HE* WAS.

"IT WAS BECAUSE HE DIDN'T REMEMBER WHO *YOU* WERE."*

*ASM #40 AGAIN! --NL

NO. NO--

YES. SOMETIMES WE DON'T EVEN REMEMBER THE LIES. YOU HAD TO KEEP YOUR SECRET, SO INSTEAD OF AN INSTITUTION OR HIS FAMILY KEEPING WATCH OVER HIM--

--YOU LEFT US ALL TO THE WHIMS OF HIS MIND. IF YOU HAD DONE WHAT WAS RIGHT *THEN,* WHERE WOULD HE HAVE BEEN A FEW MONTHS LATER, INSTEAD OF EUROPE?

"INSTEAD OF THE *BRIDGE?*"

NO--IT WASN'T *LIKE* THAT. IT WASN'T THAT SIMPLE--

IT *WAS.* YOUR SELFISHNESS, YOUR FEAR--AND SHE PAID THE PRICE. WE *ALL* DID.

JUST LIKE THEY'RE ALL ABOUT TO *NOW.*

I'M GOING IN.

TIME TO END THIS!

NO!

NONE OF THIS ADDS UP...HOLDING A GRUDGE ABOUT SOME MISTAKE I MAY HAVE MADE *YEARS AGO?!* AGONIZING OVER SOME *COLLEGE BREAKUP?!*

THE HARRY OSBORN *I KNEW* MOVED PAST ALL THIS--BUILT HIS OWN LIFE, STARTED A FAMILY OF HIS OWN.

HH. NO. NO, OF COURSE NOT, PETE.

YOU KNOW THIS RUNS MUCH *DEEPER* THAN THAT.

SO-- *WHAT,* THEN?! JUST TELL ME, AND I'LL *SAY* IT!

WHATEVER I DID, HOWEVER I WRONGED YOU--I'M SORRY. WHATEVER CAUSED YOU TO TURN YOURSELF INTO THIS--

THIS CAN'T BE IT. THIS *CAN'T* BE WHAT YOU WANT ME TO CONFESS TO.

TURN-- *TURN...* MYSELF?

YOU

KRAK

DID THIS

SHRUT

TO ME!

TRUNCH

YES, TO FRIENDS...

...AND A BRAND NEW DAY!

HE DOESN'T REMEMBER.

YOU *SEE* THAT, DON'T YOU? AS ANGRY AS HE IS...

HE WOULD SAY *ANYTHING* RIGHT NOW TO SAVE ALL OF US. SO PLEASE--

--DON'T DO THIS.

YOU KNOW, ON THE WAY HERE I WAS THINKING ABOUT THAT NIGHT BEFORE YOU...BEFORE YOU *WENT AWAY.*

YOU WERE DRESSED AS THE GOBLIN, YOU'D BEEN TERRORIZING US FOR WEEKS. YOU GRABBED ME AND FLEW ME UP TO THE BRIDGE. I WAS SCARED OUT OF MY MIND.

BUT THEN YOU SAID SOMETHING TO ME. DO YOU *REMEMBER?*

"I'D NEVER HURT YOU! *NEVER!*

"YOU'RE MY *FRIEND*...ONE OF THE DEAREST FRIENDS I'VE *EVER HAD!"*

AND I *BELIEVED* YOU, HARRY.

I *STILL* BELIEVE YOU.

MJ, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND. *I'M* NOT THE ONE DOING THIS. I'M NOT THE ONE WHO'S GOING TO HURT YOU. *HE* IS.

YOU COULDN'T SEE IT THAT NIGHT, AND YOU *STILL* CAN'T. HE'S *DEATH.*

DEATH AND DAMNATION FOR ALL OF US. THERE'S SO MUCH I WISH I COULD EXPLAIN TO YOU, BUT KNOW THIS--

--IT HAS TO END. *NOW.*

THEN *END* IT. *HERE--*

--WITH *ME.*

MJ...

NO. LISTEN TO ME--YOU WANTED SOME CONFESSION OUT OF HIM, BUT... *I* OWE YOU ONE, TOO, HAR.

I--I WASN'T ALWAYS THE FRIEND TO YOU I SHOULD'VE BEEN BACK IN THOSE DAYS. I WAS...DEALING WITH A LOT. BUT...IF THAT PLAYED A PART IN HOW WE GOT HERE...

I SHOULD BE THE ONE TO TAKE THE RESPONSIBILITY.

NO--

COME ON, HARRY. WHAT WOULD GET THROUGH TO HIM MORE THAN LOSING *ME?* JUST-- JUST SPARE HIM AND THE OTHERS.

YOU USED TO ALWAYS TALK ABOUT YOUR *LEGACY.* WELL, ISN'T THIS A PART OF THAT?

TAKING AWAY SOMEONE HE LOVES?

ISN'T THIS *SIMPLER? CLEANER?*

DAMN YOU, MARY JANE.

JUST PROMISE ME IT ENDS WITH ME.

HE *CAN'T,* GIRL. IT'S NOT *HIS* CHOICE TO MAKE.

THAT'S ENOUGH FUN FOR NOW, BOY.

NO--NOT *NOW,* NORMAN. AND NOT LIKE *THIS--*

OH, THAT'S RIGHT. YOU WANTED ME *HOBBLED.* MADE WEAK BY THAT SERVANT OF YOURS BEFORE YOU'D HAVE THE COURAGE TO FACE ME.

YOU ALWAYS WERE A *COWARD.*

DID YOU THINK I WOULDN'T BE PREPARED FOR YOUR MAGIC TRICK AFTER THAT FIRST VISIT YOU MADE TO RAVENCROFT?*

NO--THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE--

POOR HARRY, TRYING TO TAKE THE EASY WAY OUT *YET AGAIN.*

*IN ASM #831. --NL

WELL, I SUPPOSE THAT'S WHAT I GET FOR *CODDLING* YOU. NOW LET THEM GO!

NO! I HAVE TO DO THIS. BESIDES, WHAT DO *YOU* CARE? *YOU HATE THEM ALL!*

I CARE BECAUSE--

--THEY'RE MINE!!!

MJ!!!

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?!

WHAT YOU NEVER WOULD'VE HAD THE *GUTS* TO DO!

IT WASN'T-- IT WASN'T SUPPOSED TO *BE* LIKE THIS.

OH, COME ON--SHE WAS A LOVELY GIRL, YES, BUT SHE WAS EVEN BETTER AS *BAIT.*

NO--*NO*--

YOU'VE *RUINED EVERYTHING!* I'LL *KILL YOU!*

LET'S SEE YOU *TRY,* BOY. SHOW ME HOW *POWERFUL* YOU'VE BECOME! *COME ON!*

NOW!!!

NOW, FISK! NOW!

BEGIN.

RRRRRRUMBLE

WHAT IS THIS?!

THE DARKNESS...

MJ?

SHH-- DON'T WORRY. YOU'RE NOT GETTING RID OF ME THAT EASY, TIGER.

IT'S GONNA BE OKAY--

"--TRUST ME."

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"Art, story and dialogue combine pretty much flawlessly to deliver a chilling tale that gets right to the heart of Spider-Man as a character." – Comic Watch

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